

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected the claims as being unpatentable over Chen (US 5796334) in combination with Owen (US 5294915) and Lee (US 6570507B1).

The claims have been amended to better distinguish the invention from the cited prior art.

Chen teaches a transmitter and receiver that may be used for locating a remote control. The transmitter determines an identification code at power on, at some predetermined time, or in response to a pushbutton thereon. This identification code is sent to the receiver, which thereafter responds to a signal sent by the transmitter when the identification code is part of the signal.

Owen teaches a remote-controlled device that has a transmitter for activating a locator sound in the remote control for the remote-controlled device.

Lee teaches a transmitter on an appliance and a receiver on a remote control that may be used for locating the remote control. In response to the power up of the remote control (i.e., changing batteries), a signal is sent to the transmitter, which then determines an identification code for the remote control. This identification code is sent to the remote control by the transmitter.

None of these references teaches nor suggest that a button on the remote control may be used to instruct the transmitter to store an identification code for use in registering the remote control.

The instant claims include a limitation that the control code in the electric appliance is assigned in response to an instruction from the wireless remote control apparatus provided in response to a remote control operation button. This is supported, for example, at page 10, lines 2-14 of the specification.

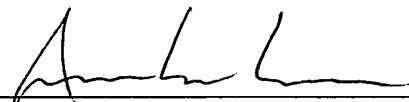
Appl. No. 10/731,060
Amdt. Dated June 7, 2006
Reply to Office action of May 12, 2006

As none of the cited references teach nor suggest such a limitation, it is not possible to combine these references to make the present invention. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims are patentable over these references.

For the above reasons it is believed that the application and claims as amended is now in proper condition for allowance, and reconsideration and early allowance of the amended application is respectfully solicited.

If any fees are required by this communication which are not covered by an enclosed check, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 36314.

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